

House Bill 162 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representative Belton of the 112th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to create a board of elections and registration for Morgan County and to
2 provide for its powers and duties, approved March 29, 2006 (Ga. L. 2006, p. 3606), so as to
3 revise provisions for the appointment, terms, and filling of vacancies of board members; to
4 vacate the current board membership; to provide for the appointment of interim board
5 members; to provide for term limits and removal of board members; to revise duties of the
6 board and elections supervisor regarding clerical assistance and poll works; to remove
7 expired and outdated provisions; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective
8 date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 An Act to create a board of elections and registration for Morgan County and to provide for
12 its powers and duties, approved March 29, 2006 (Ga. L. 2006, p. 3606), is amended by
13 revising Section 3 and Section 4 as follows:

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14 "SECTION 3.

15 (a) The board shall be composed of five members, each of whom shall have been a
16 resident of Morgan County for a minimum of one year prior to appointment and shall be
17 registered to vote in Morgan County. All members shall be appointed by the board of
18 commissioners of Morgan County.

19 (b) On July 1, 2021, the current board memberships shall be vacated, and the board of
20 commissioners shall appoint five new interim members to fill the unexpired terms of the
21 board members serving on June 30, 2021.

22 (c) Successors to members appointed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be
23 appointed to four-year terms of office.

24 SECTION 4.

25 Each member of the board shall:

26 (1) Serve for a term of four years, except as otherwise provided in Section 3 of this Act;

27 (2) Be eligible to be reappointed to succeed himself or herself, but no member shall serve
28 more than two consecutive four-year terms;

29 (3) Shall have the right to resign at any time by giving written notice of such resignation
30 to the board of commissioners;

31 (4) Serve until his or her successor is appointed and duly qualified; and

32 (5) Be removed by the board of commissioners for any reason, based upon the
33 recommendation of the elections supervisor."

34 SECTION 2.

35 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 7 as follows:

36 "SECTION 7.

37 (a) The elections supervisor may request additional clerical assistants as needed to
38 efficiently carry out the duties and functions of the board, on either an independent contract
39 basis or as county employees entitled to all benefits as other county employees, such status
40 to be determined by the board of commissioners. The board of commissioners shall be
41 responsible for determining the pay and salary of all clerical assistants of the board. Any
42 such assistants shall be hired by the board of commissioners, which shall consider the
43 recommendation of the elections supervisor, and such assistants shall be at-will employees
44 of the board of commissioners.

45 (b) The board of commissioners shall provide suitable offices and funding sufficient to
46 employ the elections supervisor and any clerical assistants as may be necessary."

47 **SECTION 3.**

48 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 9 as follows:

49 "SECTION 9.

50 The supervisor of elections shall be responsible for the selection, appointment, and training
51 of poll workers in elections."

52 **SECTION 4.**

53 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 11 as follows:

54 "SECTION 11.

55 Should a vacancy occur on the board, the board of commissioners shall appoint a successor
56 to serve the remainder of the unexpired term."

57 **SECTION 5.**

58 Said Act is further amended by repealing and reserving Section 14 in its entirety.

59 **SECTION 6.**

60 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2021.

61 **SECTION 7.**

62 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.